

The Pacific

10th Year

(First Issue Aug. 1, 1851)

NOVEMBER, 1950

No. 9

F. GROUND IS BROKEN TWICE

A big day for Congregationalism in San Francisco was Sunday, October 29. Ground was broken for two new church buildings in the city by the Golden Gate on that date. At 12:30 p. m., a goodly company gathered at Randolph and Ramsell Streets in the northwest part of San Francisco where the new minister, Rev. Karl Olson, presided over the brief ceremony. The Junior and Senior Choirs of the church sang appropriate anthems, and various members were called on to speak briefly. Distinguished guests were Superintendent Harley H. Gill; Rev. E. C. Farnham, executive of the San Francisco Council of Churches; and Hon. Ernest L. West, representing the City of San Francisco. Rev. Sidney H. Buckham offered the prayer of consecration, following which all of those present with shovels attacked the good earth with a vengeance.

At 2:30 p. m., about 100 people assembled at the corner of Woodside Way and Laguna Honda Boulevard in the geographical center of San Francisco to participate in the ceremony for St. John's Federated Church. With spot showers falling all around the Bay Area, there was no rain to mar the celebration, which was conducted by Rev. Horst Jeschke. St. John's is the name of what has formerly been called "the Forest Hill project" of our denomination. It is a joint enterprise with the Evangelical and Reformed Church and has promise of being a strong fellowship when the new building is completed. A bulldozer had already been at work on the St. John's lot, but this did not dampen the ardor of those who thrust their spades into the wet ground in this symbolic act of starting the building on its way. Representing the Congregationalists were Dr. William E. McCormack and Rev. Sidney H. Buckham. Those who spoke for the E and R denomination were Rev. Edwin Horstman, Dr. Frederick Frankensfeld, and Rev. Jason Hoffman. Supervisor J. L. Halley brought the greetings of the City of San Francisco, and Dr. E. C. Farnham, for the Council of Churches.

We invite the laymen and ministers of the Conference to watch these new buildings as they go up. When you are in San Francisco next time, drive by and have a look. Scott Haymond is the architect for Ocean View, and Arnold Constable, for St. John's Federated.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 3—Creation of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.

December 13—Earl Lecture by Toyohiko Kagawa, First Congregational Church, Berkeley.

December 27-30—Pilgrim Fellowship Midwinter Conference, San Mateo.

January 25-27—Cavalcade of Christian Education, First Presbyterian Church, Oakland.

January 29-February 1—Missions Council Meetings, Grand Rapids, Mich.

March 25—Easter.

May 18-20—Annual Conference, Pilgrim Church, Fresno.



CHURCHES GO TO THE FAIR

LOOMIS AND AUBURN ARE ON THE JOB

The Congregational Churches of Loomis and Auburn constructed a full-scale church, complete with a forty-foot tower and auditorium, at the 20th District Fair in Auburn. Rev. Harry Martynse designed the colonial-style tower which was constructed by him and the Rev. W. Keeney of Auburn. The whole building was finished in two days with about five hours of help from two Auburn laymen. Mr. H. N. Hansen did the trucking for the materials.

The churches showed the equipment in use in present-day Sunday schools during the three days of the fair, pamphlets were distributed, motion and still pictures shown, questions answered, and doctrine discussed.

A vesper service was conducted Sunday evening and the hymns of the church were played.

The church went to the fair because the church is part of the community.

YOUTH MEET---DEC. 27-30

San Mateo Host To Pilgrim Fellowship

With Dr. Vere Loper, our national Moderator, as the main speaker, young people of Pilgrim Fellowship will assemble for the annual Midwinter Conference, December 27 to 30. The campus of the San Mateo Junior College at Coyote Point will be the scene of the meetings, while delegates will be entertained in San Mateo homes. Rev. Arthur Casaday of Palo Alto,

director of the Conference, is working with the Program Committee to make this an inspiring and helpful occasion for the young people who attend.

Kenneth Stokes, national president of Pilgrim Fellowship, will speak on the opening evening of the Conference. The theme of the sessions will be "A Purpose for Pilgrims—A Purpose to Serve; A Leader to Follow; A Fellowship to Enter."

Another New Church

On Sunday, October 1, twenty-seven people gathered at 125 Granville Way, San Francisco, and voted to organize the St. John's Congregational Church. The following covenant was adopted: "Resolved, that the persons here assembled under the leadership of the Holy Spirit now register their determination to covenant themselves together as a church under the Lordship of Jesus for the worship of God and the service of man." A service of worship was conducted by Rev. Horst Jeschke, and a constituting prayer was offered by Dr. William E. McCormack. Superintendent Harley H. Gill was called upon for remarks, and Rev. Sidney H. Buckham acted as moderator of the meeting.

The members of St. John's Church assembled again on October 24 and adopted a Constitution and By-Laws. They sent a special representation before the Credentials Committee of the Bay Association on the next day and requested admission into that fellowship of Congregational Churches. On October 30, St. John's Congregational Church of San Francisco was voted into the Bay Association. Thus a new organization takes its place in our Conference Yearbook, and the membership of the Bay Association increases to twenty-seven.

LAYMEN ADVANCE

The grape arbor at Cazadero was festooned with autumn colors when 58 men from 16 churches gathered for the annual Laymen's Retreat, October 14 and 15. The purple clusters disappeared rapidly from the vines as the churchmen nibbled on grapes between sessions of the fast-moving conference, which opened with a worship service on Saturday afternoon, led by Dr. Fred Richards, of Forest Grove, Oregon, and closed with well-chosen remarks by President Herbert Hilker at the dinner tables on Sunday. As the men drove home through the apple orchards of Sonoma County, the most frequent remark was, "What a conference! We'll be back next year."

The highlights of the 1950 Retreat were the addresses by President Stuart LeRoy Anderson, of PSR, and Walter Graham, Executive Secretary of the National Laymen's Fellowship, and the Sunday service of worship conducted by Myron Greenlee and Albert Watson. Four discussion groups on the article by Ronald Bridges entitled "The Complete Layman" were led by Ed Kientz, Chuck Hobdy, John Finger, and Bill Pascoe. Harold Avery conducted an excellent summary session on the findings of these seminars. A business meeting was held in the Bowl; and the following officers of the Northern California Laymen's Fellowship were elected for the coming year: President, Herb Hilker; Vice-President, John Finger; Secretary-Treasurer, Claude Smith; Directors, Forrest Chilcott, Ed Kientz, Merrill Nikkel, J. Heinrich, Al Groth, Dan Ruggles, Carvel Caine, Harry Mahany, and Ernie Crozer.

The Pacific

Established 1851
Entered as Second Class Matter at the
San Francisco Post Office
Subscriptions, 25 cents in advance

Published monthly (except July and August) by the Northern California Congregational Conference, 1164 Phelan Building, 760 Market Street, San Francisco 2, California.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized September 11, 1937.

Address all communications and checks to THE PACIFIC, 1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco 2.

Rev. William W. Meyer, Editor This Issue

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Walker Ordained

At the call of the Palo Alto Church a vicinage council convened on Tuesday, October 10, to examine Mr. Thomas M. Walker, a member of that church, for ordination. Mr. Walker had been connected with the Y.M.C.A. in Palo Alto. He received his academic and theological training in the University of Southern California, and had previously appeared before the Conference Committee on Ministerial Standing. The council voted unanimously to proceed with the service of ordination. The Rev. Benton S. Gaskell was the moderator of the council and Rev. Corwin H. Olds was the scribe. The Scripture was read by Rev. J. K. Ballou of Sunnyvale; the scribe, Rev. Corwin Olds, gave the statement to the people and led in the commitment of the ordinand and the right hand of fellowship. The sermon was preached by Rev. G. Arthur Casaday, and Supt. Harley H. Gill offered the prayer of ordination. The charge to the candidate was given by Rev. Ellis E. Pleasant. Mr. Walker goes to the church at Perris in Southern California.

Cassiday Ordained

The Rev. Donald M. Cassiday, graduate of Pacific School of Religion and former pastor of our church at Suissun, was ordained to the Congregational ministry in Klamath Falls, Oregon, on October 18, 1950.

UNCLASSIFIED ADS

CAZADERO DOES NOT need more dishtowels any more! Thanks indeed for the very generous response. Cazadero does need the help of electricians and plumbers and later of cement workers for completion of the swimming pool, and applications will be welcome at the Berkeley office.

CHOIR ROBES WANTED—Secondhand black choir robes needed to complete set, if available at reduced price. Mill Valley Community Church.

CHOIR ROBES FOR SALE—Twenty white satin choir vestments in excellent condition, \$30 for the lot. Write Mrs. H. S. Luce, 1417 Cypress, Berkeley.

THE LAST LAP

As our churches are planning courageously for their local programs and for Our Christian World Mission during the coming year, the completion of the present apportionment year during the coming weeks should not be forgotten. Although the last month has seen considerable improvement, the columns below indicate that a good many churches have work to do.

	App't Jan. 11 to Oct. 31, '49	App't Jan. 11 to Oct. 31, '50
Alameda	\$ 839.98	\$ 909.98
Alturas	138.69	183.81
Angels Camp	434.43	68.41
Antioch	119.74	276.95
Auburn	257.16	150.00
Benicia	15.50	26.00
Berkeley	359.60	615.03
Chinese	25.00	25.07
First	7,626.49	8,158.66
North	1,126.35	1,086.30
Northbrae	276.17	400.00
South	739.38	660.44
Biola	47.68	46.08
Campbell	423.55	711.40
Cedarville	77.93	32.10
Cloverdale	106.60	89.45
Cotati	64.50	70.01
Crockett	81.53	110.70
Dinuba	2.00	1.00
Eastville	7.36	13.38
Elk Grove	33.64	67.14
Erma	60.36	62.85
Eureka	996.43	1,051.84
Fairfax	175.00	265.80
Ferndale	342.76	393.18
Fowler	125.00	
Fresno, First	2,615.70	2,518.09
Free Cross		323.84
Japanese		61.25
Zion	66.08	10.00
Glen Ellen	34.23	99.50
Guerneville	64.35	271.09
Hayward	1,773.90	1,847.38
Kenwood	89.03	76.57
Likely	7.13	
Lodi, Ebenezer	299.30	96.52
First	2,767.52	2,124.28
Loleta	33.46	24.82
Loomis	100.00	
Martinez	1,326.13	1,736.32
Modesto	64.06	102.60
Murphys		5.00
Niles	113.50	24.30
Oakland, Beth. Arm.	71.57	
First	5,129.54	4,491.27
Fruitvale	67.41	
Japanese	30.00	
New Pilgrim	83.44	398.81
Plymouth	2,046.51	1,728.87
Orinda	1,415.18	889.82
Oroville	188.96	250.00
Pacific Grove	143.26	75.84
Palo Alto	3,068.13	3,525.50
Paradise	586.50	585.60
Parlier	10.00	15.00
Penngrove	39.55	175.26
Pescadero		26.45
Petaluma	1,055.00	1,100.00
Pittsburg	273.77	329.42
Port Chicago	61.10	
Porterville	2,104.00	2,100.00
Redwood City	331.84	674.94
Reedley	15.00	
Rio Vista	80.00	50.00
Ripon	319.44	257.66
Sacramento, First	2,437.00	2,471.25
Sierra Arden	311.33	137.25
Salida	68.18	31.25
San Carlos	980.00	1,150.00
San Francisco		
Beth's Miss. Pk.	137.20	182.15
Calvary	30.00	
Chinese		26.50
First	1,949.57	1,758.24
Ocean View	150.00	100.00
Park Presidio	561.09	744.52
Sanger	66.33	54.36
San Jose	1,611.89	1,726.67
San Leandro	249.41	121.83
San Lorenzo	65.75	17.69
San Mateo	2,850.00	3,600.00
San Rafael	44.70	157.15
Santa Cruz	1,054.87	1,309.41
Santa Rosa	254.30	270.44
Santa Rosa	273.34	665.27
Saratoga	346.07	501.83
Sebastopol	74.17	190.67
Sonoma	92.95	178.86
Soquel	1,558.10	1,225.37
Stockton	107.50	90.00
Suisun	241.47	106.15
Sunnyvale	14.96	138.79
Sunol	1,595.00	1,108.00
Tulare	110.00	100.00
Weaverville	29.00	143.85
Woodside	642.27	754.61
Reno, Nevada	1,755.35	225.00
Miscellaneous		2,131.96
Pilgrim Fellowship		

\$60,819.22 \$62,875.65

ANTIOCH—A new Baldwin organ has just been purchased. Parents' groups are taking fine interest in Church and Home cooperation in Christian Education.

Associations Elect

Central Association

Rev. Fred W. Gross, Moderator
Mrs. Ralph Raven, Vice-Moderator
Rev. Noel J. Breed, Registrar

Redwood Empire Association

Rev. Raymond C. W. Keeble, Moderator
Rev. Laude W. Hays, Vice-Moderator

Rev. Herbert C. Gans, Registrar
Sacramento Valley Association

Rev. Hendrik Martynse, Moderator
Mrs. Roy Horner, Vice-Moderator
Rev. Theodore Dunlap, Registrar

San Joaquin Association

Rev. Harold F. Cram, Moderator
Mr. James F. Hare, Vice-Moderator
Rev. Norio Ozaki, Registrar

Santa Clara Association

Rev. Corwin H. Olds, Moderator
Rev. G. Arthur Casaday, Assistant Moderator
Professor William Hawley Davis, Registrar

Upper Bay Association

Rev. Gifford M. Webster, Moderator
Rev. Donald F. Gaylord, Vice Moderator
Rev. C. George Kuhn, Registrar

Student Banquet

About 80 Congregational college students, representing a dozen Student Fellowship groups, gathered at First Church, San Francisco, for the fourth annual Student Fellowship Banquet on Saturday evening, October 21.

Speaker and guest of honor was Dr. Bryant Drake, Secretary of Higher Education of the denomination, who was en route home from an official visit to Kobe College in Japan.

PENNGROVE—There has been splendid advance during the past months. There are three choirs, two of which are robed. A small young adult group of only five couples recently served a turkey dinner, taking in \$175.00. The church plans to call a council for the ordination of its pastor, Mr. Laude W. Hays, under the By-Law adopted last May by the Conference.

EUREKA—Mrs. James P. Senter, wife of the minister, will be the new director of Christian education. The church has two choirs, one adult and one junior. An active men's club is engaged in a constant effort of repairing the church. The new organ is paid for.

LOLETA—This little church has about 20 active members. The minister is Mr. Ivan Cone, a Presbyterian layman. Repairs on the building have been kept up. The Sunday School runs as high as 40 and has five classes. The church owns a movie sound machine.

SONOMA—The Church School of this federated church is at a higher point this year than for many years. Three choirs are now serving the church under the direction of Mr. Daniel T. Ruggles. Rev. Olan A. Terrell is pastor.

PARLIER—Seven new members were received during the past year. A unique program has been four visits to every family for the purpose of deepening the spiritual life and the discussion of religious themes. Rev. G. S. Farajian is the pastor.

AUBURN—A new amplifier for the church organ has been secured. The Men's Club has completed a project originally begun over three years ago to excavate and finish a basement room which makes a fine addition to the church facilities.

Youth Consider Christian Vocations

At Pacific School of Religion there were gathered on October 14 a group of 40 Congregational youth and leaders to consider the challenge and the opportunities of Christian Vocation.

Of the group attending, to meet congregational students and professors at the seminary, nearly half of them journeyed over 100 miles for the occasion. A lively student panel, discussing "Why I Chose a Christian Vocation," was conducted by young people recently active in Pilgrim Fellowship and now enrolled in P.S.R. The full day included chapel, a visit to the famed Palestine Institute, study of opportunities for service, and individual interviews. In a day when youth are searching, it is heartening that many are doing their searching within the Christian Church.

PLYMOUTH HOUSE

Recent weeks have seen a hayride, a retreat at Cazadero, and the annual Plymouth Mothers' rummage sale. Dave Stowe, former Plymouth House director, just back from China, was a recent speaker.

TULARE—Numerous improvements have been made: the church and the parsonage have been painted white. Cement steps have been installed. Rev. Harold F. Cram, the new minister, was elected moderator of the San Joaquin Association.

BERKELEY, CHINESE—The first drawing of the plans for the new church building program has been completed. The Women's Guild netted \$270 for the building fund at recent dinner. The college age group, Sunday evening, has been having a series on "Preparation for Marriage."

PARADISE—The "Meet-and-Eat Club" for young marrieds, the "Friendly Folk" for 35-50 year olds, and other church organizations are helping to buy a movie projector for the church.

ALTURAS—Capacity crowds have been coming to hear Rev. Rowland Dow. A Saturday morning club has been organized for Church School youngsters. Twenty-six are in the membership class.

SAN LEANDRO, BROADMOOR—An October date was chosen for the Church and Church School family picnic, with services in Woodminster Amphitheater followed by basket lunch.

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST—Robert A. Millikan and Charles Clayton Morrison are on the roster of Sunday Evening Club speakers. A Drama Workshop has been launched as part of the widening educational program.

BERKELEY, ARLINGTON—The church is strengthening its program by launching a group for college students and other youth of college age, which meets for supper Sunday evenings.

PESCADERO—Mr. Peter R. Sherman, a student at Pacific School of Religion, is serving the church this year. He was given his license to preach at the fall meeting of the Santa Clara Association.

CHURCH BUILDING LITERATURE

Free list, more than 100 items by Interdenominational Bureau of Architecture. Send card.

E. M. Conover, Director
300 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

SARATOGA—The monthly supper October 11 was the occasion for a substantial cash gift to the pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Gordon King, toward the purchase of a new car. The event marked the fifth anniversary of their coming to Saratoga, after Mr. King's separation from the U. S. Army where he served three and a half years as a transport captain.

Two church school sessions are held each Sunday morning, one prior to and one during the church worship service. Accessions to the membership have increased the total to 412. On World-Wide Communion Sunday a record number of 137 communions were served.

Using the new Pilgrim Series of church school lessons, two joint teacher and parent meetings are held weekly on Wednesdays, one in the morning, the other in the evening, in an effort to strengthen the tie between church and home.

PLEASANT HILL—The name "Hillcrest Congregational Church" has been approved for this new church. A women's group has been organized and is at work. The Church School has reached 110, meeting in seven homes. A choir and a study group are in process of organization. Duplicate 9:30 and 11:00 a. m. services in the Carlson parsonage are growing. Over 100 calls on new homes have been made this past month by the membership committee.

OROVILLE—The new parsonage was dedicated October 8 with song and prayer followed by an open house. A parent-teacher meeting was held to acquaint parents with the church school program. Among the results was a fund and a plan for Saturday morning movies "both to brighten things for the children and to help them know that the church is alive and doing things." A chartered bus brings church school children from two outlying areas.

SACRAMENTO, PIONEER—Fourteen Friendship Clubs help keep up the vitality of this church, which has received at least 100 members in each of the twelve years of the pastorate of Rev. Torrance Phelps. Rev. Orval Clay, assistant pastor, and the youth groups are busy planning to host the North Central Pilgrim Fellowship rally.

PALO ALTO—On October 21 an all-church carnival was held with every department of the church joining in the fun and fellowship and helping raise money for the building fund for a new church on a new site. A men's club has been successfully launched. The church school has grown rapidly, and every class has both a teacher and an assistant.

BERKELEY, SOUTH—Dr. Fred S. Stripp, a member of the faculty of the Department of Speech of the University of California, has recently accepted a call as an associate in the preaching ministry of the church. The Women's Fellowship held a very successful bazaar during the month.

COTATI—Four new members have been received into the church. A job of painting and redecorating is to be carried out by volunteer labor, and sidewalks are to be laid. Mr. Forrest Miller is serving this church for the current year.

SAN FRANCISCO, GRACE UNITED—A new parsonage for the Colemans has been purchased and occupied.

LODI, FIRST—A three-point program for the fall has been adopted consisting of (1) finding new members and revitalizing old memberships under a system of district organization, (2) organizing a new Junior High group and strengthening youth work, and (3) deepening the devotional life. A large picture of "Christ the Good Shepherd and His Sheep" was cut into small pieces, each piece sent to a member or friend of the church.

As each person attends and returns his piece, the pieces are reassembled to make the perfect picture. About three-fourths of the pieces have been returned. The Men's Club has donated time preparing a house for a D. P. family; the Club will be host to the men's groups from the other Lodi churches on November 21.

RENO—Closing a pastorate of six and one-half years at the Federated Church of Reno, the Rev. Arthur L. Rice has resigned and on November 1 goes to serve the Mt. Laki Community Church near Klamath Falls, Oregon. Mr. Rice came to Reno from Tulare where he served for ten years. During the present pastorate, the Reno Church has purchased a new manse, freeing the old residence for a much-used Youth Center, church offices, and church school classrooms. Members received during the pastorate total 274. A largely attended party was held honoring the Rices, and a substantial purse was presented.

FRESNO, FIRST—There are nearly 600 children in the church school, meeting in three sessions. 251 new members have been received in ten months. The old church building on Divisadero Street has been sold. Foundations are being laid for a new chapel and classroom unit. A campaign is under way for \$75,000, which, if successful, will make possible the social hall seating 600 people. Rev. John H. Gregg is pastor.

CEDARVILLE - EAGLEVILLE—Rev. and Mrs. Clifford Higby are leaving Surprise Valley after more than 21½ years of faithful service in this challenging field. At the association meeting, tribute was paid the Higbys for outstanding work in placing twelve Displaced Persons. A new pulpit for the sanctuary was dedicated October 15.

STOCKTON—A second session for the lower departments of the church school has been initiated at 11:00 a. m. so that families may attend at the same hour, and a notable increase in attendance of young parents has resulted. Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Lidell of Pacific School of Religion are working with youth and church school groups.

REDWOOD CITY—A two-day fall retreat of church leaders defined eleven challenging objectives for the current year, including more space, closer parent-teacher cooperation, a goal of 100 new church members, a full-time church secretary, a church library, and a "help thy neighbor" program.

HAYWARD—One of the couples groups of the church has adopted the name "Spouse and Spice." The newest group for younger couples is "The Couplets." A fellowship hour after church is inaugurated. The Wednesday evening "Learning for Life" program offers a challenging series.

ALAMEDA—The Church was host for the union Reformation Day services. A Centennial bazaar is featured in November.

PORTERVILLE—Forty members have been received since January first. A new course of the Pilgrim Series has been introduced. It is fully expected that the suggested goal for OCWM will be exceeded. Only seven churches in the Conference now surpass this church in the amount given to benevolences. "Home Coming Day" will be observed on November 12, the 59th anniversary; and "Voluntary Pledge Day" for the underwriting of the annual budget on November 19. Fifty young people from out of town attended the area Rally held in the church on October 22, said to be one of the best. Mrs. Harold F. Cram of Tulare was Thank Offering speaker on November 2. Rev. Willis L. Goldsmith is pastor.

OAKLAND, NEW PILGRIM—This month has marked the beginning of several new activities: an adult class, Sunday mornings at 9:45, led by the minister; a prayer group on Thursday evenings; an Evening Auxiliary to the Women's Guild for mothers of young children; a Junior High mothers' club to sponsor the Junior High work in the church. The Rev. Tom Watt was well enough to serve with the Rev. George Lindsay at the Communion Table on World Communion Sunday.

CROCKETT—The church has received 27 new members, has grown in all its departments, and has purchased \$300 worth of office equipment during the first year of the pastorate of Rev. C. George Kuhn. The Church School's movie projector is well used. The Dorcas Society, for younger women, was organized last spring and has grown in both size and enthusiasm.

WOODSIDE—Rev. Charles H. Hudson has been invited to become the interim minister. The church has recently received the gift of a piece of property adjoining the church, and a building committee has been appointed which is undertaking the splendid project of a new parsonage. Attendance at services of worship and church school is at a high point.

SACRAMENTO, SIERRA ARDEN—Photos of the new master-plan model of the complete church were displayed at the association meeting as the church celebrates its fifth anniversary of the start of the project. Reports continue insistently that the church is overcrowding all departments and longing for a larger building.

RIO VISTA—Some of the women are active as "gray ladies" at the Suisun-Fairfield air base. A Junior High group has been organized, and the Couples Club is starting an active year. A successful Vacation Church School was held during the summer. Funds are growing to build the new sanctuary.

PORT CHICAGO—Attendance at services has been encouragingly high since the arrival of Mr. Louis B. Gerhardt, as pastor, in September. A youth choir has been organized, the Church School is growing, and the Pilgrim Fellowship group has been reorganized.

FAIRFAX—Rev. James Montgomery and bride, the former Evelyn Gardner of Duluth, Minnesota, are at home in the new manse and are being honored at a reception November 12. All organizations have helped to get the manse in readiness.

FRESNO, PILGRIM—Rev. A. B. Hussian is serving this church as interim pastor.

MARTINEZ—Rooms of the church are all attractively named and labeled with plaques, and many have been redecorated. The church was host to an overnight fall youth rally from Redwood and Upper Bay areas. The church, both sanctuary and classrooms, is "bulging at the seams" every Sunday. A fine Vacation Church School was held this past summer, with 250 enrolled. Sixty-four new members have joined the church during the past year. Mr. Kenneth Johnson of P.S.R. is now part-time youth assistant. Mrs. Herbert Shelley, sponsor of the P.F. group, has organized a parents' group to assist her, which is proving valuable to all concerned. A Junior High group is in the process of being organized.

MIRA VISTA—The Articles of Incorporation have been completed. The building committee is negotiating with the low bidder, who will proceed with construction of Unit One as soon as legal title to the property is conveyed to the Mira Vista Church from the Conference, probably within the month. Sunday School attendance has begun to climb above the levels of last spring and is taxing the capacity of the six homes now being used as meeting places. A successful rummage sale was held, and soon the women's group will hold its first bazaar.

SACRAMENTO, OAK PARK—Anniversary celebrations generated enthusiasm both in and out of the church. Negro churches of the Sacramento area shared in the observances. Painting of the inside of the church is completed. A lawn bulletin and a hot water heater have been installed.

BERKELEY, NORTH—A Parent-Teacher meeting to start the fall quarter was well attended. Over \$100 was sent the International Christian University of Japan. The Men's Club heard Dr. Galen Fisher report on his visit to Korea and Japan. A new refrigerator for the kitchen has been purchased.

OAKLAND, FIRST—A committee from the church visited the new project at Pleasant Hill and was delighted to see such a flourishing community and fine progress. The Board of Trustees recommended to the congregation a substantial increase in the missionary giving of the church.

RIPON—Over and above its apportionment giving, this church has sent many significant gifts to Miss Anna Dederer in Micronesia since her visit to the church, including a redwood water tank, a set of films on the Life of Paul, a Coleman lantern, and several shipments of canned meats.

NILES—The pastor, Rev. A. Paul Focht, has been carrying on a teacher training program for the Church School. This fall a released time program has been organized, with 130 children coming to the church each Wednesday afternoon.

BERKELEY, FIRST—Attractive leaflets have been prepared for the Every Member Canvass, including one on the world-wide responsibilities of the church.

MURPHYS—The church school has grown under the leadership of Mr. Coke Wood, who has also been association moderator.

DIXON—Friends of Rev. E. L. Spuller, of the Community Church at Dixon, will be glad to hear of the very successful vacation church school with attendance as high as 140.

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Mrs. E. B. Kientz, Correspondent

The next regular meeting of the Federation of Congregational Women of Northern California will be held on Thursday, November 16, at the First Congregational Church, Oakland.

FALL MEETING

"Teach us, O Lord, true brotherhood

In daily thought and deed,
That we may tread with humble heart

The path where Thou dost lead."

This was the thought in the minds of the program committee of the Federation as it planned the Fall Meeting. Mrs. Holland F. Burr and her co-workers, Mrs. Williston Wirt and Mrs. G. E. Lesnini, planned a fine program and ordered a perfect day. Both were carried out to perfection. The beautiful Ebenezer Church of Lodi was the setting, and the hospitality was most gracious and generous. Two hundred fifty women from thirty-six churches enjoyed the day to the utmost.

After the invocation by the minister, Rev. Carl F. Brost, and greetings from Mrs. Magdalena Hoff, president of the Women's Group of the host church, Mrs. Galen M. Fisher, just returned from the Orient, brought latest news from Korea and Japan. She and Mr. Fisher were in Seoul just two weeks before the invasion. Mr. Fisher had been there in 1927, and in this recent visit found the people faced with very grave problems following the war. Now those problems are intensified and greatly multiplied by the unexpected invasion from the north. One of the greatest problems was and is the population problem, for from two to five million refugees came from north of the 38th parallel to live in the Republic of South Korea. Sixty per cent of Seoul has been destroyed and many of the leaders who have come up in the last five years have been lost. The rebuilding is going to be most difficult and costly. Russia wanted to quell the new democracy because the Republic of South Korea had been very successful in putting down Communism.

Mrs. Fisher spoke of the progress that has been made in Japan in the years since the war. The spirit of the people is very fine. There is gratitude to the United States and hope and optimism because of what has been accomplished. The new constitution gives equal rights to women for the first time. The International Christian University will be a wonderful help in training Christian leadership. We believe the church is the great foundation stone of democracy and the churches of America should spend millions abroad in the next few years. What has been done since 1945 is only a "drop in the bucket."

The General Council report was given in a very novel way, which greatly pleased the listeners. It was in the form of a dramatic skit called "Aboard the New York Central." Delegates from California, Montana, and Minnesota, portrayed by Federation women, talked over the Council as they rode on the New York Central train from Cleveland to Chicago. The listeners felt as if they, too, were there participating in the conversation with old and new friends.

The Rev. Mary McKee Chester led the service of worship, and, by means of the 91st Psalm and her meditation, took the women with her into the very presence of God, and invited and urged each one to enter "the secret place of the most High, and abide in the shadow of the Almighty."

The women of the Ebenezer Church had prepared the tables, and served tea and coffee to go with the lunch each woman brought. The tables were decorated with beautiful clusters of grapes of many kinds, and the guests were encouraged to eat the decorations.

Miss Eunice Thomas, who has spent 31 years as a teacher in Fukien Province, China, spoke on the topic, "Foochow Faces Facts." The Communists have "liberated Foochow," and one of the facts the Christian Chinese have had to face is that they must carry on their Christian faith and work without their missionary friends, who are all returning to the States. Miss Thomas is confident that the Chinese Christians will carry on and even grow stronger in the face of obstacles.

The Association presidents were introduced by the president Mrs. W. B. Buckham, and by means of a large map of Northern California showed the location of the churches in their respective areas.

The offertory solo was sung by Mrs. LaNonne McIntosh, accompanied by Mrs. Carl F. Brost at the organ: "Today I walked where Jesus walked and felt His presence near."

The closing address was given by Mrs. Stuart LeRoy Anderson on the topic, "This We Can Do." Thinking of the women in connection with Jesus' words, "Ye are the light of the world," she spoke of certain candles which each individual woman can keep burning to help build a "Christian Community." Some of these are spirituality, high thoughts, goodwill and generosity and understanding, appreciation, faith, and communion with God. "Only as we let these candles shine out from us can we glorify God. And in closing she told a story about "Each shall bear his own (light)." Mrs. Anderson's home is in Berkeley, and it is a great joy to have her "one of us." Ask your Speakers' Bureau chairman to get her for your group. Perhaps Mrs. Fisher will be available these next few months, too.

Thus another page was added to the history of the Federation of Congregational Women of Northern California.

If your correspondent can judge all of the Association meetings by the one she attended, they were a very fine experience for all who participated. The Women's Hour was presided over by the Association president, and Miss Eunice Thomas, missionary to China for so many years, was the guest speaker and was appreciated thoroughly both for what she said and for what she is and has been to her constituents both in China and America. The other member of the team was Mrs. W. Bayard Buckham, and whether she wore her red hat or some other, she was a joy to look at as well as very worthwhile to listen to. She spoke of different things at different places, and no matter what the weather she brought something of interest. Perhaps it was the Thank Offering or Woman's Gift that she spoke of. At any rate this is the time of year for all of us to be recalling our blessings and sharing because of them in the many worthwhile projects for which the Woman's Gift goes. Our Conference depends on us to do our "best," for more than half of our Thank Offering goes to work right here in our own Conference.



During November this roadside scene will be reproduced on highways across the country. Thousands of these giant outdoor posters will be displayed to carry the message of Religion In American Life.

R. I. A. L.

The Religion in American Life program is conducted for its second consecutive year by a National Laymen's Committee with Charles E. Wilson, president of General Electric, as chairman.

RIAL is sponsored by 21 national religious bodies, including the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, the United Council of Church Women, the Synagogue Council of America, and the American Bible Society.

The program extends throughout the month of November, 1950.

The RIAL program marks the first time in the history of religion that the modern machinery of mass communication has been placed at the service of a national religious movement. American business and the advertising industry, through its public service organizations, The Advertising Council, have pledged full support for the national movement.

The movement has a two-fold purpose: to emphasize the importance of religion and religious institutions in personal and community life and to urge everyone to attend and support the church or synagogue of his choice. Through the press, radio, and display advertising, intensive attention will be directed towards the place of religion in national life, centering around the campaign theme: "Take your problems to Church this week—millions leave them there!"

Cause For Humility

Northern California Congregationalists may have mingled feelings of satisfaction and humility as a result of certain figures that have been released by the Division of Church Extension and Evangelism in New York. In a decade from 1939 to 1949, the gain in our Congregational church membership was 39.8%, whereas the national gain of our churches was only 14.8%. Only one conference in the country exceeded our percentage, and its membership is less than one-fourth of ours.

While the Sunday School enrollment of all of our churches in the country declined 13%, ours gained 21.7%. Again only one conference exceeded our percentage, and that with a Sunday School enrollment of less than one-fourth of ours.

The other side of the picture, however, is that California had a gain in population of 51.6%, so that our gain in church membership and in church school enrollment fell far below the gain in population. For this, we should be profoundly humble.

Taking all the denominations together including the Roman Catholic, the population of the United States having some church connection was 54.2% as against 49% ten years ago. Sixty per cent of those having church connections are Protestants. It showed a gain in one year of 2.9% whereas the population gained in the one year was 1.5%.

Chapel of the Chimes

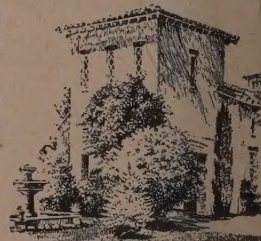
AT OAKLAND and SANTA ROSA
ABOVE GROUND BURIAL... Under Perpetual Care

The Oakland Chapel is the largest and most beautiful in the United States... with three Chapels, seven lovely gardens, Great Organ and Chimes.

The Santa Rosa Chapel is set in its own charming gardens and is equipped for Cremation Service or Mausoleum Crypts for entire casket.



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